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Ferenc Rujavecz, chairman of the plant committee, a feared nagger.

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## THE SOPRON NEEDLE FACTORY

The needle factory in Sopron (Soproni Tűgyár Vállalat) is located on Csengeri utca. The factory, a branch of the Rakosi plant in Csepel, produces needles, patent buttons, and buckles. The finished products are shipped to the Rakosi plant in Csepel, where the central distribution station distributes the goods to unknown consignees. The Sopron factory employs 200 workers who work in two shifts. The plant manager is Laszlo Szita, a former helper, who lives in Sopron, Hatsokapu utca 3 (formerly Müller Pauli Strasse).

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## MAGASEPITESI VALLALAT IN GYOR

The Magasepitesi Vállalat No 48 (Construction Enterprise No 48) in Győr is affiliated with the construction trust which has branch offices throughout Hungary.

Four thousand workers are employed in this construction enterprise. In November 1951, the hourly pay was as follows:

Apprentices	1.00 to 1.50 forints
Helpers	2.05 to 2.50 "
Skilled workers	2.50 to 3.10 "

Deductions are determined by means of percentages of the calculated norms.

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Chairman of the plant committee is Laszlo Inotai, a forced Communist.

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#### CONDITIONS IN THE PISZKE PAPIRGYAR VALLALAT

The only Hungarian factory which produces [loose] cellulose fibers [wadding or absorbent cotton], thin wrapping paper, toilet paper, and at present allegedly cellulose [standard-grade] in the expropriated Munkolczi and Company plant in Piszke (Komitat Komarom), which has been state property since the first day of the Nationalization Law.

The enterprise, which was privately owned, consisted of two plants: one slate roof factory and one paper mill. After becoming state property, these two plants were merged, and were electrically equipped because the coal shortage had caused the stoppage of the steam engines. Since the Communists could not let this factory's operation come to a standstill, they made large investments in the form of electrification, laying power lines from Tata and supplying engines from Tata.

Recently, various Soviet machines and transformers were installed. However, the majority of these machines were defective and became unusable after a very short time. Naturally, the workers are blamed for the failure of the machines. The machine foreman (name unknown), who had continued in his job when the plant became state property, was held responsible when two Soviet transformers burnt out immediately after they were put into operation. Although experts determined that the transformers had burnt out because they were defective, the foreman was dismissed.

It had been intended beforehand to dismiss this man, who had worked in the factory for many years, mainly because of denunciations by the factory stoker (name unknown) who was the Communist Party informer. This fanatic informer not only denounced old officials and foremen of the factory, but even his own colleagues. Finally the laborers and employees of the enterprise requested that the Communist Party remove him. The party complied, for fear that the personnel of the enterprise, of which only 3 percent were party members, would cause unrest by striking and by other means.

These circumstances probably led to the replacement of almost all male workers in the factory by female workers in the summer and fall of 1951. At present, the women have to perform all operations formerly carried out by men, such as loading and unloading of raw materials and finished products, and transporting of cases which weigh 100-120 kilograms. The factory operates in three shifts, 7 days a week, to fulfill production quotas.

The workers receive extremely low wages. The average pay of a worker in this enterprise is 70-80 forints per week, less than the minimum cost of living. On the other hand, the wages of the leading officials, appointed by the Communists, are above average. The present factory manager, Husvary (fnu), is paid about 5,000 forints monthly. In addition, he gets free living quarters and food. He lives in the apartment of the former owner of the factory, and uses the latter's furniture. This apartment was completely renovated a few months ago by the party.

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In 1946 and 1947, while the factory was undergoing reconstruction as a result of World War II bomb damage, about 150 workers were employed. At present, although production has increased considerably, less than 100 workers are employed. While formerly there were only 14 administrative officials, there is now one official for every 2½ workers.

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